

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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SECRET

Action

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Info

FROM: ATHENS

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 501, OCTOBER 23, MIDNIGHT

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 501; INFORMATION PARIS 52.

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CUBAN SUMMARY

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THIS IS FIRST OF SERIES MESSAGES WHICH WILL BE TRANSMITTED PERIODICALLY SUMMARIZING INFORMATION AND REACTION IN GREECE TO CUBAN SITUATION. MESSAGES IN THIS SERIES COORDINATE INFORMATION AND APPRAISAL FROM ALL SECTIONS OF MISSION, INCLUDING SERVICE ATTACHES CAS AND USIS.

PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AT LUNCH WITH AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 23 GAVE CATEGORICAL ASSURANCES OF FULL GOG SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS RE CUBA SET FORTH IN PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. PRIME MINISTER SAID INSTRUCTIONS TO THIS EFFECT ALREADY SENT TO GREEK PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE PARIS AND US COULD COUNT ON GOG SUPPORT IN UN AS WELL. CARAMANLIS STATED:

SERVICE ATTACHES INFORMED THAT GREEK GENERAL STAFFS RECEIVED ADVANCE INFORMATION OF IMPORTANT POLICY STATEMENT ON CUBA TO BE MADE BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY. CHIEFS OF STAFF STAYED UP TO

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/HEAR
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-2- 501, OCTOBER 23, MIDNIGHT FROM ATHENS

HEAR PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND EARLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 23 HELD MEETING TO DECIDE ON PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.]

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NON-GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS HAS NOT CRYSTALLIZED AS YET. ENTIRE GREEK PRESS PLAYS CUBA AS NUMBER ONE STORY BUT THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE SIGNIFICANT EDITORIAL REACTION. PRO-GOVERNMENT VRAZYN. OCTOBER 23 ASSEPTS "GREEK PUBLIC OPINION FULLY APPLAUDS AMERICAN ACTIONS FOR IT BELIEVES THAT COMMUNISTS RECOGNIZE ONLY POWER. CENTER OPPOSITION ETHNOS SAME DAY POINTS TO DANGERS INHERENT IN PRESENT SITUATION AND ANTICIPATES "RADICAL" SOVIET REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS WITH UNFORESEEABLE CONSEQUENCES FOR WORLD PEACE. COMMUNIST AVGHI FAILS TO COMMENT EDITORIALY BUT RUNS STORY UNDER SCREAMING HEADLINES ASSEPTING "GANGSTER ACTION (BY US) DRIVING MANKIND TO BRINK OF NUCLEAR WAR."

LABOUSSE

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Advance copy to SS/O.

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